

# LEGACY TRUST

FOR

# RECREATION & CONSERVATION

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**Natural Resources**

**Doug Sutherland** - Commissioner of Public Lands

11/26/2002

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# DNR Upland Land Base

- 2.1 million acres of forest lands
- 1.1 million acres used for agricultural, grazing and range lands
- 115,000 acres in 75 Natural Areas
- 11,596 miles of road

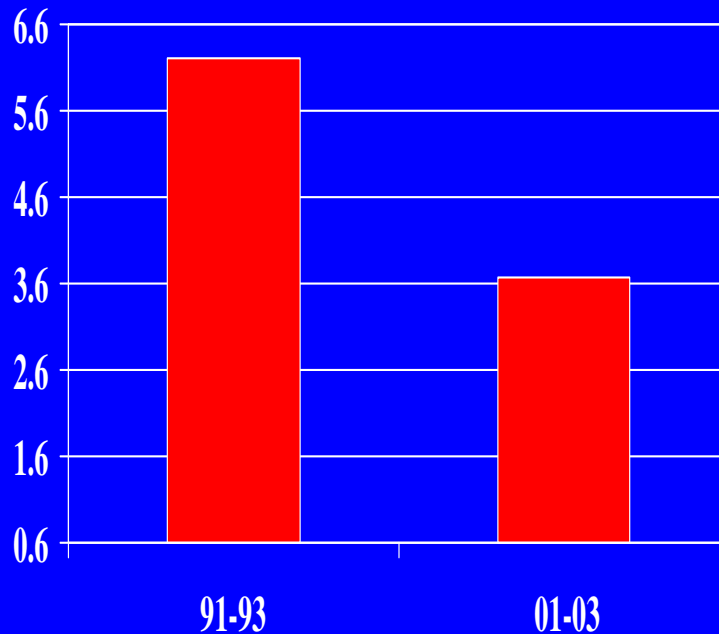
- **Recreation access arises as an integral feature of being a major public land owner...**
- **In addition to protecting ecosystems and providing revenue to build schools, DNR welcomes millions of visitors each year.**

# DNR Recreation and Natural Area Assets

- Undeveloped campgrounds
- Picnic and viewing areas
- Interpretive and learning facilities
- Research and restoration projects
- Trails and trailheads
- Dispersed use areas.

# 10 Year Comparison of DNR Funding

## *Expressed in real 2001 dollars*



- o In 91-93 biennium, there were 139 recreation facilities and 500 miles of trail; today we have 150 recreation facilities and 1000+ miles of trail
- o In “real” 2001 dollars, we have an operating budget of \$3.68 million this biennium whereas in 91-93 biennium we spent \$6.2 million – 50% more than today.

# More people and less DNR presence causes problems.



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# Liabilities from poorly managed public access.

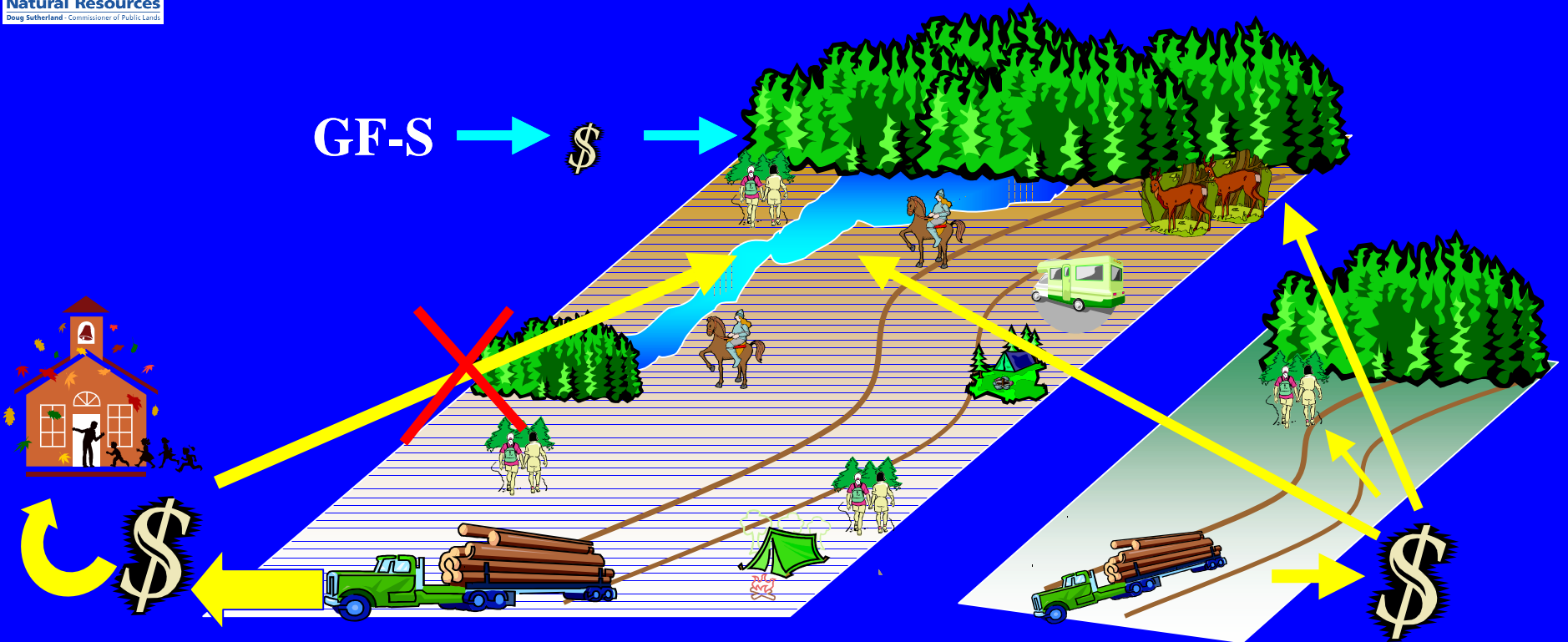
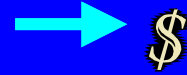
- Drain on funding.
- Public safety risk.
- Environmental damage.
- Deteriorating user experience.

# The Legacy Trust Concept

- **Natural resource revenue for recreation and conservation on natural resource lands.**
- **Economic uses of the landscape co-exist with recreation use and habitat protection.**
- **Consistent with our state's cultural traditions.**



GF-S



**Revenue dedicated to support recreation and conservation on DNR land.**

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**The new trust lands could also be selected to save working forest open space around growing communities.**



**The new trust lands must be manageable for short and long-term revenue production.**

# **Start-up Funds Needed**

**(EXAMPLE)**

**\$25 - \$50 Million per year**  
**over ten-year period.**

**\$350 Million total**

# Targeted Land Categories

(EXAMPLE)

**Commercial Forest 60%**

**Agriculture Lands 10%**

**Commercial Property 30%**

# New Trust Land Management

- **Directed by Board of Natural Resources.**
- **Policy direction consistent with current trust lands.**
- **Management costs deducted from revenue, via Forest Development Account.**
- **Managed by current DNR organization**



# Expected Revenue For DNR Recreation and Conservation

(EXAMPLE)

<b>FY 04-05</b>	<b>(\$4.2)</b>
<b>FY 06-07</b>	<b>(\$0.9)</b>
<b>FY 08-09</b>	<b>\$8.1</b>
<b>FY 10-11</b>	<b>\$18.4</b>
<b>FY 12-13</b>	<b>\$28.8</b>

- **Estimated returns after management costs and debt repayment.**
- **Alternate investment patterns would yield different returns.**

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# Allocation of Revenue

- **Ad hoc advisory committee representing users.**
- **Long-term and biennial spending plans.**
- **Submitted to legislature by DNR with budget.**
- **Appropriations to DNR by legislature.**

# Summary

**DNR has a distinctive public access, recreation, and conservation responsibility.**

- **Arises from land ownership.**
- **Can be solved by land ownership.**





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# *Leaving a Legacy*

